

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-12. (Cancelled).

C1 13. (Currently Amended) A disc support plate for a recording and/or reproducing medium, comprising:

a substrate having a first tapered edge portion and a second edge portion, said substrate configured to allow a disc to be loaded onto the disc support plate from the first tapered edge portion to the second edge portion along a disc loading direction; and

a resin portion provided only on the first tapered edge portion, the second edge portion and a line-shaped portion provided between the first tapered edge portion and the second edge portion.

2 14. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim ~~13~~¹, wherein said substrate comprises a metal plate.

3 15. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim ~~13~~¹, wherein said resin portion is provided on the first tapered edge portion, the second edge portion and the line-shaped portion without discontinuity.

4 16. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim ~~13~~¹, wherein at least one of the resin portion provided on the first tapered edge portion, the resin portion provided on the second edge portion, and the resin portion provided on the line-shaped portion has discontinuity.

5/17. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim 1/3, wherein said substrate is approximately 0.3 mm in thickness, and said resin portion is approximately 0.1-0.2 mm in thickness.

6/18. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim 1/3, wherein said resin portion is formed on both faces of said substrate.

7/19. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim 1/3, wherein the line-shaped portion connects the first tapered edge portion and the second edge portion.

8/20. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim 1/3, wherein the line-shaped portion does not connect the first tapered edge portion and the second edge portion.

9/21. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim 1/3, wherein the line-shaped portion extends along a center line of the substrate which is substantially parallel to the disc loading direction.

10/22. (Previously Presented) The disc support plate as claimed in claim 1/3, wherein the line-shaped portion includes a first and second line-shaped portion which are provided substantially symmetrically with respect to a center line of the substrate which is substantially parallel to the disc loading direction.

11/23. (Previously Presented) A device for recording and/or reproducing a disc,

comprising:

a casing defining an external shape of the device;

a disc support plate disposed in said casing, said disc support plate comprising:

a substrate having a first tapered edge portion and a second edge portion, said substrate configured to allow a disc to be loaded onto the disc support plate from the first tapered edge portion to the second edge portion along a disc loading direction; and

a resin portion provided only on the first tapered edge portion, the second edge portion and a line-shaped portion provided between the first tapered edge portion and the second edge portion;

a disc compartment arranged in said casing to receive the disc on said disc support plate;

means for loading and unloading the disc from said disc compartment;

means arranged in said casing for reproducing the disc in said disc compartment; and

means for operating at least one of said disc compartment and said reproducing means.

12/24. (Previously Presented) A changer mechanism for discs, comprising:

a plurality of disc support plates, each comprising:

a substrate having a first tapered edge portion and a second edge portion, said substrate configured to allow a disc to be loaded onto the disc support plate from the first tapered edge portion to the second edge portion along a disc loading direction; and

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a resin portion provided only on the first tapered edge portion, the second edge portion and a line-shaped portion provided between the first tapered edge portion and the second edge portion;

a disc compartment provided with said plurality of disc support plates, said disc compartment receiving the discs on said plurality of disc support plates; means for loading and unloading the discs from said disc compartment; and means for selecting one of the discs received in said disc compartment.

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25. (Previously Presented) A device for recording and/or reproducing a disc, comprising:

a casing defining an external shape of the device;

a disc support plate disposed in said casing, said disc support plate comprising:

a substrate having a first tapered edge portion and a second edge portion, said substrate configured to allow a disc to be loaded onto the disc support plate from the first tapered edge portion to the second edge portion along a disc loading direction; and

a resin portion provided only on the first tapered edge portion, the second edge portion and a line-shaped portion provided between the first tapered edge portion and the second edge portion;

a disc compartment arranged in said casing to receive the disc on said disc support plate;

a loader configured to load and unload the disc from said disc compartment;

a reproducer arranged in said casing and configured to reproduce the disc in said disc compartment; and

an operation unit configured to operate at least one of said disc compartment
and said reproducer.

26. (Previously Presented) A changer mechanism for discs, comprising:
a plurality of disc support plates, each comprising:

a substrate having a first tapered edge portion and a second edge portion, said
substrate configured to allow a disc to be loaded onto the disc support plate from the
first tapered edge portion to the second edge portion along a disc loading direction;
and

a resin portion provided only on the first tapered edge portion, the second edge
portion and a line-shaped portion provided between the first tapered edge portion and
the second edge portion;

a disc compartment provided with said plurality of disc support plates, said
disc compartment receiving the discs on said plurality of disc support plates;
a loader configured to load and unload the discs from said disc compartment; and
a selector configured to select one of the discs received in said disc compartment.

[27-31. (Cancelled).